



THE GARZETTE



OCTOBER 1998



VOLUME 8, ISSUE 10

The President's Pen

By Ike Chapman, KE4GYM



For those of you that did not make to the meeting in September, I'd like to bring you up to date on some things. We (the club membership in attendance) voted unanimously to proceed with a plan to upgrade our repeater system. The plan approved calls for a power amplifier to be purchased and installed on the 440 repeater to increase the transmit coverage of that repeater. Once that is done we'll be able to hear the repeater better so then we'll need to improve the hearing of the repeater. To accomplish this, we'll be installing remote receivers at the Jimmy Carter and Bogan Road sites to link back to the 440 main site at Snellville. As part of the plan presented and approved we'll be buying a new 8-channel voter and using it on the 2 meter repeater. This will give room for future expansion for additional remote receive sites on 2 meters. The existing 4-channel voter will then be used on the 440 repeater as part of that expansion. A new controller will be purchased for the 440 repeater and the existing RC-85 controller will be used to get the 6 meter repeater on the air.

Bottom line, what will it cost and when will it be completed? The plan calls for an expenditure of \$2500.00 with all work being completed by the end of 1999. The major expenditure that we will be laying out this year will be the power amplifier for the 440 repeater. The repeater guys, Howie Gould, W4NVF; Eddie Foust, WD4JEM; and John Kemker, KF4MZD will be doing some equipment rearrangement in preparation for this expansion. This will entail swapping out racks from one site to another and mounting equipment in those racks. Lou Manglass, NY4F will be joining the repeater committee and will be working primarily on the 440 project with Howie and Eddie.

I also updated the club on the status of the 6 meter repeater project at the September meeting. The original time line called for the repeater to be completed and online by July/August of this year. We have obviously missed that date and at a repeater committee meeting on September 12th

Continued on page 8

Amateur Radio, the good old days?

by Bob Varone, WA4ETN

The early years. I have been a licensed Amateur Radio Operator for 35 years. I received my Novice license in 1963 when I was 16 and quickly advanced to General. I know to you new guys, this doesn't sound like a big deal, but believe me things were a lot harder then. (I will explain later)

Growing up in the late fifties and early sixties, electronics was starting to take off. Television was replacing radio and I will never forget our first TV.

It was a black and white model with a 9 inch round screen. (so guys no com-

plaints about your 15 inch color computer monitor.) Amateur Radio equipment consisted of vacuum tube receivers and transmitters. Most equipment was home brewed, or military surplus. There was some commercial equipment available but it was expensive. The modes of choice back then were AM and CW, so you could build your equipment with a just handful of parts. My first transmitter was assembled from the remains of an old TV set. I used the power transformer, rec-

Continued on page 4

GARS WEB PAGE

Our web page is back!

Don't forget to check it out.

Up-to-date info and tidbits from the past. While it is under construction, if you have ideas, info or find any errors, please

Email the webmaster.

<http://www.gars.org>

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

ON THE AIR	Page 2
CW Forever	Page 5
September Meeting Minutes	Page 7
Look Who's Talkin	Page 9
ARES	Page 10

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Suzanne Farr, (770)279-8711

Digital Radio Chairman

John Farr, KD6CLO (770)279-8711

HF/VHF/UHF Awards Checker

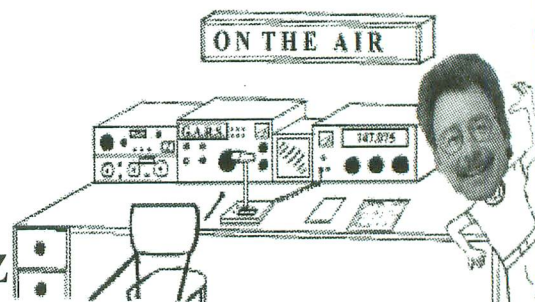
Don Ennest, KS4WR (770)923-4851

DXCC Checker

Frank Deak, AF4Y (770)978-6546

♦♦♦

On The Air with Terry Lewis KD4KVY by Karl Phillips, K4GZZ

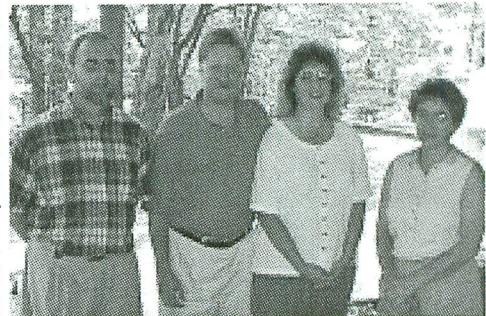


Terry was born in Anderson, Indiana and attended grammar and high school in Frankton, Indiana, a town of some 200 residents. Terry then attended Vincennes University in Vincennes, Indiana but left college to start what turned out to be a career decision to work for General Motors. This occurred in 1973. Later, he would marry Pam and Terry and Pam resided in Vincennes until relocating to Albany, Georgia to continue his career with General Motors there. They lived there some 18 years before moving to the Atlanta area in 1996.

During his youth in Indiana, Terry got his first taste of ham radio through his dad who was also interested and was licensed in Indiana. His dad took him to his radio club in Anderson. After visiting the club, Terry's dad was licensed but Terry did not take the exam. Terry's dad had a Kenwood TS-520 and a dipole.

Once Terry and Pam moved to Albany, the ham radio bug "bit" again as one of Terry's co-workers was a ham and had a 2 meter hand held. His friend worked Germany through the

local 2 meter/10 meter repeater hookup and that got Terry re-inspired. The very next day, Terry went out and bought a license manual and began studying for his license. Terry's first hand held rig was a Yaesu FT-11. Terry passed his no code tech test in 1992 and became KD4KVY. Terry then took the 5 wpm code test at the Walton EMC office just south of Snellville. In 1997, at the Albany Hamfest, Terry passed his General. While living in Albany, Terry was



Terry and Family Enjoying the GARS Family Picnic.
Photo By Brian, KF4MWI

**"...GARS hams
are especially
friendly, helpful
and sociable."**

elected President of the Albany Radio Club and Pam was also elected Secretary. Terry and Pam served several terms and were very active in their clubs activities. Later, Terry bought a Swan 350 and since has owned about every Kenwood model imaginable...from a 520 to a 430 and a 570S. Terry has gone over to the "other side" now and owns an ICOM 756. His antenna system is that of a G5RV for 10-160, a Cushcraft A3 HF beam with the 40 meter add-on kit, a 6 meter beam and a 6 meter ground plane and a 13 element

beam on 2 meters. Terry's wife, Pam is licensed KD4YHJ and their daughter, Kim is KF4BHX. Kim is a student at the University of Georgia in Athens but doesn't own a radio. Terry says she talks on all of his.

Terry retired earlier this year from General Motors and now lives the "life of Riley". Only difference is Terry worked in a car assembly plant and if you remember...Riley worked in an aircraft factory.

Sorry, I drifted off to TV land there for a moment.

Terry and Pam joined GARS shortly after moving to Atlanta and they are

both very happy members of the club. Terry says the GARS hams are especially friendly, helpful and sociable. Both Terry and Pam like the clubs many varied activities and he says it gives the club members a wide choice in club functions to choose from. They were introduced to GARS through Johnny - W4WKP when he invited them to a GARS "demo" that the club was putting on.

Terry's other hobbies include kayaking and music. I have had the pleasure of playing music with Terry and I'll tell you right now....Terry is a very accomplished musician, especially on the dulcimer. Terry travels the south and performs at music gatherings and will be participating in a gathering of some of the finest dulcimer players in the south in November in Unicoi. Terry is also a guitarist.

I have known both Terry and Pam for about a year and a half now and I'll tell you they are both very nice people to know. They are both a real compliment to our club and to our entire ham radio population. They both love the hobby and it's easy to tell that they do. Terry and Pam have participated in many a GARS event and I look forward to our continued friendship. Make it a point to get to know both Terry and Pam. You won't regret it.

See you next month. With Summer vacations winding down...and increasing band activity, don't be surprised to hear more and more GARS members on the air. Ten meters has had some good openings!

Wisconsin Anti-mobile Law Dies

Wisconsin anti mobile law dies in assembly Some good news for hams living in Wisconsin. The threat of a new state law that would ban the mobile in motion use of two way radio equipment has ended.

At least it has ended for now. Smoke Signals newsletter editor Jim Romelfanger, K9ZZ, tells Newsline that Wisconsin Assembly Bill 754 is basically a dead issue. Romelfanger says that he spoke with one of its sponsors and learned that it has not even had a hearing let alone be reported out of committee. Jim says that with only a few days left to this years Wisconsin Assembly session, that there is no way for AB 754 to become Wisconsin state law.

AB 754 was primarily aimed at curbing automobile accidents due to inattentive cellular telephone users. Unfortunately for hams, the wording of the measure encompassed all forms of mobile radio communications. Its backers are expected to try to pass it again in the next Assembly session.

Meantime hams now have a chance to build a solid opposition to it or at least demand an exemption for licensed radio amateurs.

Amateur Radio Newsline

WELCOME!
NEW
MEMBERS

Please join me in welcoming our newest GARS members:

K7CDJ Russ Murphy
W5RQR Bill Stewman
KF4ZYN Rene Campbell

Best regards,

Jack - WU4H
Membership Chairman

Hams Exempt From Coming CB Law

In other news, hams have won a total exclusion from a new local jurisdiction CB radio enforcement bill before the United States Senate. This is a measure that will give state, city and other local governments the power to enforce federal regulations over 11 meter CB radio operators and the interference that they cause.

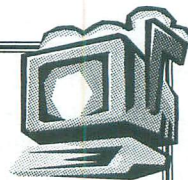
Senate Bill 608 was introduced by Wisconsin Senator Russell Feingold. The original version had no protection for hams, so the ARRL met with Senator Feingold to hammer out new wording.

The measure, as redrafted totally exempts Amateur Radio from its provisions. It was then presented as an amendment into Senate Bill 1618. That's the Consumer Anti-Slamming Act which was approved May 12th.

It's not yet known if or when the entire bill will come up for a vote in the House of Representatives. Feingold introduced the original version nearly two years ago. This, after receiving complaints from his constituents of massive interference and the FCC's failure to act.

(Via ARRL letter)

GARS Electronic Mail List



If you have an EMail address and have not yet registered it with the club and wish to do so, please send a message to **Jack Herndon, WU4H** and request to be added to the list.

Send to: wu4h@jherndon.org

...good old days?

Continued from page 1

tifier tube and capacitors for the plate and filament supply. The horizontal oscillator tube was used as an oscillator amplifier, it ran about 50 watts. Novices were not allowed to use VFO's, so crystals were used. You would call CQ and then tune up and down the band so see if anyone was calling you. When you are rock bound (crystals) it was unlikely you would find someone on your exact frequency.

Some how we managed to find each other and have great fun in the process.

FCC Testing

When I said things were tougher in the good old days it was no joke. First of all you had to travel to the nearest FCC office to take your exam. In my case I had to travel from home in New Jersey to New York City. At 16 years old your options on travel are limited to getting a ride from your parents, buses or the shoe leather express. Back then the Amateur Exams were only given once a month on a weekday. This meant you would have to beg your parents to allow you to take a day off from school and take the bus into the city. If you failed the exam you had to wait one month before you could take it again.

The FCC Office in New York was like most Federal buildings, old and menacing for both young and old alike. The Federal Employees giving the exams were less than cordial and I believe cattle was treated better at the slaughter-house. The gentleman in New York at that time was named Finkleman and he left a life time impression on me as how not to treat people. He had white hair, smoked these long Havana cigars and wore these reading glasses that hung on the end of his nose. He had no inflection in his voice when he talked and had a stone cold face that showed no expression at all. (what a warm human being).

The Mother of all Exams

Now if you made it past these obstacles you now faced the mother of

all exams. You were herded into a large room with old style wooden school desks and given one sheet of paper and a pencil. The code test was given by a reel to reel paper punched machine and no one asked you if the volume was OK.... The text was sent for five minutes and you had to copy one minute solid copy. That also meant Finkleman had to be able to read your handwriting, as I am sure he did not give anyone the benefit of the doubt. At the completion of the exam the papers were snatched up so you did not have time to make any corrections. After a period on time Finkleman would come in and read a list of names and the fun part was you never knew if he was reading a list of those who passed or those who had failed. He liked to keep you guessing until the last moment. This guy Finkleman must have been related to the Marquis De Sade. After passing the code copying part you would also have to send the code as well.. If you were lucky enough to make it through the code exam the written exam was no cake walk. The study guide used at that time was the FCC License Manual, it was about as helpful as an anchor to a drowning man. The test was designed in such a way that most questions had two correct answers, with one being more correct than the other. There is government logic at work for you, some things never change. The test included schematics and you also had to work the math (no calculators back then guys). You could also take it to the bank that they placed the decimal in every answer to trip you up (.1, .01, .001, .0001 amps).

Finally after all that, Finkleman would grade your written exam. If he was in a good mood he would either shake his head up and down (that's a pass) or left and right (that's a fail). I guess being a government employee he didn't want to expend any extra energy by having to talk. Like I said guys, things were harder then, but when you passed you had a real sense of accomplishment.

Radio Row

The only bright spot in failing an exam at the FCC in New York was a visit

to Radio Row in lower Manhattan. (now occupied by the World Trade Center). The only way I can describe the place was that it was like an on going electronics flea market. It was open for business six days a week 52 weeks a year. Tons of used surplus radio parts and equipment were available. The shops would place the goodies on tables in front of the store and for a quarter or fifty cents you could find just that part you needed to complete your transmitter or receiver. This was indeed the largest candy store in the good old USA for Amateur Radio Operators. Harrison Radio had a giant store that had one section dedicated to new equipment and another loaded with used equipment. If you could not find what you needed at Radio Row it did not exist.

Entering Amateur Radio Today

After reading about the good old days, it is easy to see some things are much better today, and I just don't mean the equipment. There is an exam scheduled just about every week in Atlanta, given by your fellow Amateur (not a Federal employee). The written exam study material is complete, with no tricky answers. The code exam can be passed by either coping one minute solid copy or a multiple choice exam. Radio Clubs across the country like ours have classes set up to help you learn about Amateur Radio and pass the exam for your ticket. Entering Amateur Radio today is a rewarding and pleasurable experience. Amateur Radio has been great fun for me over the years and I have made many new friends all over the world. So guys go out and spread the word about our hobby and give a helping hand and a word of encouragement to the new guys coming up.

CW Forever and Ever

You must have at times,
Thought into the past,
Where some things go out
While others last
What comes to my mind is
The old Morse code,
That has weathered the storms
From any abode.
To talk with ones fingers
Is surely an art,
Of any info you
Care to impart,
In most conditions
The signals get through,
While the same about phone
Is simply not true.
Those dits and dahs
Cut through the trash,
Of near by noise or
Lightning's crash.
To the sensitive ears
Of the hams receiver,
Who records this data
With ardent fever.
He knows he's doing
Something unique,
(in such poor conditions,
That's quite a feat)
To roger the message

That came off the air,
These brass pounders
Sure do have that flair.
They say Morse ops
Are a dying breed,
But don't despair,
There's always that need,
That when conditions get rough
for the new automation,
Be rest assured,
There'll be need for your station.
CW is dying?
Believe it never,
This mode will be 'round
Forever and ever.
But one thing is sure ,
What we really need,
Is to relay our knowledge
To the younger breed.
To carry the torch,
Long after we're gone,
To send Morse code
Through the air like a song.
When at last,
Silent keys pull that lever,
We can rest in peace,
It's CW forever

Jim Hatherley, WA1TBY

Arizona hams help locate lost toddler

An Arizona toddler is safe, thanks in part to help provided by the Cochise County ARES and RACES unit. Rick Lindquist, N1RL, of the ARRL Audio News has more:

The team was activated around 8:45 PM on September 8 to assist the Sheriff's Office Search and Rescue unit in locating the lost 2 « year old boy who had wandered away from his home earlier in the evening.

The unit deployed the County Emergency Response Vanto an area near the Cochise/Graham county line north of Wilcox, Arizona, to assist in the search. Elements from several other public safety units more than 75 people in all also turned out.

Bob Hollister, N7INK, and Ron DeWillers, W1YYO, spent the night manning radios in the emergency response van and helped to keep track of the search teams as the vigil wore on. Just as the ERV relief team showed up to take over the day shift, the little boy was located by a county search and rescue dog team some two miles from his home in a corn-field.

"Other than being tired, hungry, a little dehydrated, and thoroughly intimidated by the experience, the young man was fine," reports Arizona Section Manager Cliff Hauser, KD6XH.

The youngster had spent about 15 hours in the fields trying to find his way back home. Section Manager Hauser said that eight amateurs were involved in the search effort.

Rick Lindquist N1RL.



Two local hams recently won the big lottery and are....oops that's the wrong story! Two local hams were caught holding up.....their life savings. One was heard saying:"we need to get a new HRO catalog before we head to that little island of yours in the pacific."

Actually Ade, N2BSG and Terry, KD4KVY just havin some fun.

This is Brian Siegmund, KF4MWI. Brian has supplied the GARZETTE with numerous photo images and we are very thankful for them. Outside of capturing the sprit of GARS members in action, these images are now part of the club history archive. Thanks again Brian!



MIR back on frequency

MIR is back on 145.985 MHZ. Pat Gowan, G3IOR, reports that, after short period on 145.935 MHZ, Mir voice and packet operations within range of the United Kingdom have returned to 145.985 MHZ. Pat says that he does not know why the 145.935 MHZ frequency was tried.

<Amateur Radio News Service>

GWINNETT COLLISION CENTER, INC.

305 Sharon Ind. Way
Suwanee, Georgia 30024
945-0161

Import and Domestic
Unibody and Frame Repair

Marty Fowler, KE4MLH

Mark Justice

PROPOSED POSTAGE HIKES FORCE QSL SERVICE TO ADJUST

Starting in 1999, the ARRL Outgoing QSL Service will increase its fees from \$4 to \$6 a pound. ARRL Membership Services Manager Bill Kennamer, K5FUV, says the move is necessary to absorb the effects of a proposed postal rate increase and to bring the money-losing service a bit closer to a break-even basis. The rate for quantities of 10 cards will remain at \$1.

Kennamer said the rate increase represents a cost of 4 cents per card (based on 150 cards per pound) to sort, package and mail QSL cards to the bureaus of the other IARU member societies. "Even with the increase, this still represents one of the better bargains in services to ARRL members," he said.

Inaugurated in 1976, the Outgoing QSL Service provides an economical way for ARRL members to send their QSL cards to amateurs in other countries. Today, two fulltime employees handle the more than 2 million cards that show up most years.

"The ARRL has subsidized the Outgoing QSL Service since the beginning, and continues to do so today," Kennamer explained. He said the League's handling and mailing costs now run more than \$9 a pound, leaving a shortfall of more than \$5 per pound at the current rates.

The last rate increase, to \$4 a pound, was three years ago.

Arrl Letter



Allen Johnston, KF4PZZ and wife Vicky announce addition to family.

Girl: Abigail Sarah Johnston

Weight: 6 pounds 1 ounce

Length: 19 1/2 inches

When: 4:36am (0836 zulu)

Where: Northside Hospital

Mother, Vicky is doing well.

Dad, well...unlike on HF he is experiencing his own 'Pileups'

now!

NOVEMBER Birthdays Within GARS

By Jack Herndon, WU4H

- 1 N4ZZK Al Ludwick
- 5 KE4QNE Jenny Eberhardt
- 5 W5RQR Bill Stewman
- 8 KT4EZ Edward Pierce
- 10 KF4EZ Mike Guler
- 10 KA4ZZG Pat Elrod
- 11 KB2FYS Omar Herrera
- 12 N9ENG John Kludt
- 15 KB4FFO Libby Veach
- 16 KT4NK David Schulte
- 20 KF4MDW Michael Ross
- 22 NY4F Louis Manglass
- 23 WD0HGB S. Yothment
- 24 W4JFM John Madden
- 26 KF4HLG Nova Whatley
- 27 WB4KRN John Bachtel
- 27 KC4ZHZ Gerard Verly

SEPTEMBER Meeting Minutes

by John Sokol, K9AOK - Secretary

Called to Order at 7:40 p.m., local By: Ike Chapman, KE4GYM; President

In Attendance: Ike, KE4GYM; Marty, KE4MLH; Kevin, KF4HFN; John, K9AOK

The attendance register was signed by 53 Members and 5 Visitors 3 children were also present

Ike addressed the members in attendance and announced the following offices will be vacated at the end of their terms. President, Vice President, Treasurer and Membership. Kevin, KF4HFN; did not announce if he was or was not going to run for re-election and John, K9AOK; announced that he will be entering the race for President. This will present an opening for Secretary. John, K9AOK; proposed to all in attendance to consider running for any of the available offices. This will be an excellent chance for the voice of the membership to be heard.

Ike asked the present members of the executive board to introduce themselves, then the membership was asked to introduce themselves. The visitors introduced were K7CDJ, Russ Murphy; KF4ZOB, Erich Richker; W5RQR, Bill Stewman; KF4ZYN, Rene Campbell and KD4BI, Bob LaBerge.

Ike asked for a motion to accept the Secretary's Minutes of 08/20, as printed in the GARZETTE, the motion was made, seconded and approved unanimously.

Ike read the Treasurer's Report, as received from K4HS via email. A motion was made, and seconded, to accept the report as read and approved unanimously. The report is attached to the secretary's minutes.

Susan, AF4FO; Apparel Chair announced an increase in price of the headgear. The supplier has increased their cost to us, and the hats are now \$9.00 and if embroidered, \$14.00.

Mark, KD3GC; announced a special events station to be held on Oct. 3rd at Briscoe Field, Lawrenceville to commemorate the E.A.A. Annual Bi-Plane Fly-in. The event will begin at 9am and run until 2pm. Pancake breakfast will start around 8am. Radios and operators are needed as well as assistance with the antenna trailer. Mark also reminded the membership that a Field Day Chairman is needed, as he will not be continuing in that capacity for 1999.

Ike announced the A.R.E.S. S.E.T. will also be on Oct. 3rd. The practice will take place at an undisclosed construction site to emulate a tornado disaster and work on damage assessment skills learned through the Red Cross. Listen to the repeater for more details.

Ike announced a SkyWarn Initial Class taught by Barry Gooden of the National Weather Service to be held at the Gwinnett Justice Detention Center on 9/24/98 beginning at 7 p.m. Bring your fellow hams, and neighbors, to the class.

Rick, KD4VOJ; announced the Scouting event of the year, JOTA, will be held 10/17, from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. If you can assist, please contact Rick.

Rick, KD4VOJ; announced the LanierLand Ham Fest to be held on Saturday, 09/19.

Mary, WB4ALU; announced the QCWA Lunch to be held at the Piccadilly Cafeteria on North Druid Hills Road on Saturday, 09/19. QCWA membership is not required to attend the luncheon.

Ike held a raffle/drawing for those volunteers for the Septem-

ber Dog Show. The 1st prize is \$100 cash and that ticket drawn was for John, KF4MZD. John, the treasurer will find you .. or the check in is the mail! The 2nd and 3rd tickets drawn are for an HRO gift certificate. These were Charlie, KF4KDF and David, KA4KKF. The last ticket drawn was for an annual subscription to WorldRadio. This ticket belonged to Larry, W4JLB. Since winner did not need to be present to win, the subscription form was filled out by Kevin, KF4HFN for you, Larry. Congratulations to all the winners!!!

Win, N1TWX; announced Tech- No Code classes will begin on 09/22 at Central Gwinnett H.S.

Ike presented the 1997 ARRL Sweepstakes Plaque for 1st place, SouthEast Division Low Power Phone to Mark, KD3GC. Upon his acceptance, Mark mentioned that it would be nice if the club would sponsor similar presentations to future winners, in an effort to bolster contesting and sweepstakes participation.

Ike reminded the membership that the GARS Ham of the Year award will be presented at the Holiday party to be held on December 18. Get your nominations to the executive board for their review.

John, K9AOK; announced the annual GARS Holiday Party will be held at the Holiday Inn, Suwannee on Friday December 18 from 8 p.m. to midnight. Tickets will be available next meeting at the same price as last year .. \$15 per adult, \$25 per couple, children under the age of 12 will be \$7.50. The prices can be kept the same as last year because of the three dog shows the club assisted at this year. Your R.S.V.P. is required by 11/18 to afford enough time to prepare for the children who will be attending.

Ike announced a change in the Saturday morning breakfast social. The new location will be the Golden Corral on Riverside Drive in Lawrenceville, between 316 and 120. Most people meet between 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. Thanks to Earl, AF4FG for finding this location. Come and enjoy the club camaraderie.

Eddie, WD4JEM; is requesting for club help on 10/2, 10/3 and 10/4 at the 1st annual Paddle Fest to be held by the Lake Lanier Kayak Club. Safety boats will be needed for communications. Approximately a dozen people will be needed on each date. Contact Eddie if you can help.

Ike invited anyone interested in the repeaters to join in on any of the repeater committee meetings. Contact any member of the committee for the next meeting time, date and location.

The program was held by Ike, regarding the current status and the future status of the GARS Repeaters. The PL tone of 82.5 will soon become a necessity to access any of the repeater locations in the county. Lou, NY4F assisted in the presentation, indicating the 440 coverage will be enhanced in the northern part of the county. This will require additional hardware in the form of controllers and voters. The approximate cost to the club will be \$2500. A motion for the club to earmark this amount to enhance the 440 was made by Bob, WA4ETN and seconded by Ade, W2BSG. The 6m repeater is plugging along, and should be online by the end of 1998. Packet is alive in Gwinnett, and is seeking a link to outside the state. John, KD6CLO is getting statistics on current usage and future plans.

Jack, WU4H; Membership Chair presented 3 applications for membership. Russ, K7CDJ; Bill, W5RQR and Rene, KF4ZYN were voted in unanimously and welcomed by the membership.

Kevin, KF4HFN conducted a raffle with the following results: Rene, KF4ZYN won an HRO gift certificate

Bill, W5RQR won an annual subscription to WorldRadio Bob, WA4ETN won a t-shirt Jack, KN6DO won a single (current) copy of WorldRadio

The meeting was adjourned at 9:19 p.m. local

...The President's Pen

...Continued from page 1

a good deal of time was taken up discussing the project and what could be done to get it on track and online in a timely fashion. There is a possibility that we can do a single transmit/receive site out of Lawrenceville which will reduce our work time. This is all dependent on some donated equipment and whether or not that equipment can be retuned from the commercial bands into the amateur bands. But whether a single site or a split site between Lawrenceville and Snellville, we have several tasks that have to proceed and John, KF4MZD is going to pushing to get those underway and completed. Given all the information available at the repeater committee meeting, we hope to have a 6 meter repeater on the air by the end of 1998.

The repeater committee will be asking for help in the coming months to get work parties organized to perform some of the tasks that have to be completed to make these plans become reality. When that call goes out, please take the time to help out.

And speaking of communications, have you seen the all new GARS web page. David Adcock, KA4KKF has taken over the task of being the club's webmaster and has done a great job in getting the new layouts done and on the new site. We all need to thank Bill Putnam, KF4TLY for providing GARS with server space for the web page. Thanks also goes out to Grant Tomlin, W4GNS who assisted with getting the domain name changes in place so that www.gars.org points to the correct site.

We have several events coming up in October with the W4G special event station with EAA 690 on October 3rd and JOTA with the Boy Scouts on October 17th. But between those and the annual Christmas party on December 18th, there's a big hole in the activities schedule. We'll be discussing some activities at the executive committee meeting but it certainly helps to hear from the membership about any ideas that you might have. Please let one of the officers know of any activities that you have in mind

for us to get involved with.

We do have a couple of activity related committee chairman slots that need to be filled. Kevin Berry, KF4RMA has told me that he will moving from the area up to Pennsylvania so we'll need to recruit a new Techfest Chairman right away. We had a great time this past January and I'd to build on that event this year, so if you're interested, please contact me. We also need to recruit a Field Day Chairman for 1999. I know that Field Day is still a good ways off but the 1998 committee held it's organizational meeting in December of 1997. Again, if you're interested, give me a call.

We've also finalized plans for this year's GARS Christmas party, it will be held on Friday, December 18th at the Holiday Inn in Suwanee. A nice dinner buffet will be server and a cash bar is available in the hotel. The prices for tickets will be the same as last year, \$15 per person or \$25 per couple with children under 12 at \$7.50. Tickets will be available at the October club meeting and you must purchase your ticket no later than December 10th. Kevin McClure, KF4HFN will once again serve as DJ and we have the room reserved to midnight so there will be lots of time for dining, dancing, and have a good time. We'll have some door prizes to give away and there'll be more information on those later.

The GARS Ham Of The Year will be awarded at the Christmas party so it's time to get your nominations into the executive committee. All members of GARS, except for the officers, are eligible for the award. It's intended to recognize the contributions of a GARS member who has done an outstanding job of promoting amateur radio in general and GARS in particular during the past year. The HOTY is voted on by the executive committee based on nominations received from the membership. One of the great things about our club is that every year there are quite a number of people that are deserving of consideration for this award. It doesn't make our job of selecting that person easy but from my way of thinking that is a great problem to have to solve.

Well once again, I think that's about it for this month. Our monthly club meeting will be on October 15th and Rob Huckaby, WB4GKI will be giving a program on Heads Up Display technology. And don't forget to come by and join us at the Weekly GARS Family Breakfast, each Saturday morning at our new location at Golden Corral restaurant in Lawrenceville.

GARS Apparel

Golf Shirt (White or Red)	
W/O Name & Call Sign	\$24
With Name & Call Sign	\$28

Tee Shirt (White or Red)	
W/O Name & Call Sign	\$20
With Name & Call Sign	\$20

Light Weight Jacket (Red only)	
W/O Name & Call Sign	\$31
With Name & Call Sign	\$35

Heavy Weight Jacket (Red only)	
W/O Name & Call Sign	\$41
With Name & Call Sign	\$45

Sweat Shirt (White or Red)	
W/O Name & Call Sign	\$30
With Name & Call Sign	\$30

GARS Logo Call Sign Badges	\$8
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Baseball Style Hats (White or Red)	
W/O Name & Call Sign	\$9
With Name & Call Sign	\$14

Sweatshirt, Jacket & Hat	
Remove old call sign	\$7
Add new call sign	\$5

Contact: AF4FO Susan Swiderski
at
(770) 449-0369
or
K4HBI Mike
via
email -> swiderski@lucent.com

In a recent visit from his home land in Japan seen here lower right. Toshi, AD4ZZ Visited one Saturday morning with some of his friends and fellow GARS members. It's too bad his visit was so short, maybe his next visit will be at a field day or other special event. Thank you Toshi for the Photo.



Sunspot numbers for September 3 through 9

were 117, 73, 101, 142, 138, 164, and 156, with a mean of 127.3. The 10.7-cm flux was 162.7, 154.7, 154.3, 164.6, 151.2, 153.5, and 145.3, with a mean of 155.2. The estimated planetary A indices were 9, 7, 6, 6, 7, 11, and 8, with a mean of 7.7.

Look Who's Talkin

Here are a few log entries from different hams who have had recent Radio contacts. This should show the few of us with little or no experience that contacts should start getting ore interesting as more bands open up to distant lands and more often. Check them out and give a call for CQ on a band, you'll never know who'll return your, "Seek You".

Compiled by Karl Phillips,

Date	Local Station	Other Station	Band	Mode
9/5/98	AD4PZ	DL2KG	10 Meter	SSB
Comments	Great contact with Orsten in Germany			
9/5/98	AD4PZ	IK4GRO	10 Meter	SSB
Comments	Santaza, Italy			
9/19/98	AD4PZ	UAOSJ	20 Meter	SSB
Comments	YURI - In Astatic Russia			
9/27/98	AD4PZ	F5RXE	10 Meter	SSB
Comments	Patrick From Bordeaux France - Great Signals			



Ares SkyWarn

By Lowry Rouse, KM4Z
Gwinnett Co. E.C.



S.E.T. (Simulated Emergency Test) 1998 is now history. On Saturday morning Oct. 3rd, Gwinnetts ARES members gathered at Richard Hull Middle School near the intersection of Sugarloaf and Old Peachtree Rd. to practice performing damage assessments on a simulated disaster struck neighborhood. We started the Test out with a mock severe weather net and tornado touchdown. Of course it's hard to simulate actual situations that come up during a real net and severe weather coming in, but we did the best we could on trying to tell participants (mainly directed to newer hams who have little or no experience with nets) what was suppose to be happening. The net lasted for approximately one-half hour, after which we used the school as an Operations Center for the relief effort to be coordinated from.

Tom Crowell (KU4CK) representing the Red Cross, divided the group up into teams of two, a driver and damage assessor. He then selected a near-by neighborhood and gave the team instructions on what areas they were to cover. The team would then drive through the area gathering information and filling out the Red Cross forms. Upon returning to the Operations Center, he would then review the reports and compare the results with his own and other teams evaluations of the mock damage. As expected, there were some differences between opinions of what was minor, major or destroyed dwellings. The main point was to get assessors familiar with filling out the paper work and to experience having to make quick decisions under disaster conditions. The accuracy of determining actual damage of course will come with experience and further training. The S.E.T. was over by 1:30am. Only 13 (plus 3 young men who weren't hams but SKYWARN spotters) of the approximately 110 members participated. It would have been wonderful if more had taken advantage of this

great exercise. Thank-you to the participants. If you didn't make it, you missed out on a great day of public service to the community and good comradery with fellow amateurs.

An update on ARES leadership here in Gwinnett Co. I recently talked with Larson Watts (KF4HLH) who was helping Jeff Harrison (KD4GPI) with net managing. Larson as you know is heavily involved with the Ga. Baptist Disaster Relief Team and has to spend considerable time with training and duties involved with that organization. Larson will now be our Ga. Baptist liaison and will participate with us as time will allow him. Pat (KE4IKC) and Jan (KF4TMO) Kelly will assume the coordination of the information net on Monday nights. Jeff (GPI) is still the over-all AEC (Assistant Emergency Coordinator) of nets but is primarily involved with emergency nets and coordinating ARES activities at Gwinnett Co. EOC (Emergency Operations Center). Pat and Jan are also the new AEC's for coordinating with the American Red Cross, working with AEC Tom Crowell (KU4CK) who is the ARES's Red Cross liaison. This may seem to be double coverage but as you know, in a real disaster, Tom's attention must be given to Red Cross duties and we need someone in there with him to coordinate with ARES activities. I'm also working on getting a person to take charge of logistics for the ARES (setting up of equipment for emergency communications). I will keep you informed as to the progress of this endeavor.

Please keep in mind that without team participation, the effectiveness of any group goes down. We're a new group emerging and need support from all hams in the county if we are to be recognized as a reliable source of assistance for community service (which is the at heart of the Amateur Radio Service). The ARES leadership can only do

so much to show "Hams" abilities to the county agencies. Without the participation of yourselves during training exercises and real time disasters, we might as well be trying to strike a match in a hurricane.

ARES members keep in mind that at the Lawrenceville Hamfest, Tom Rogers (KR4OL) will be taking ID photos and laminating ARES membership cards for \$3.00 each. That covers ARES for this month. See you at the hamfest on Nov. 7th & 8th.

Canadian Amateur's licence suspended for willful interference

A Canadian ham has had his license suspend for six months. This, after an investigation by Industry Canada proved that the Central Ontario amateur was the source of malicious interference to an area repeater.

The suspension follows an investigation by the Department into complaints by amateurs about interference on the particular two meter repeater spanning a period of more than two years. Industry Canada says that repeater users played a major role in the investigation by collecting evidence and assisting in identifying the offender.

One side note. Industry Canada says that the amateur whose license was suspended cannot be named. This is because the information concerning the suspension relates to a matter between a private individual and the Government of Canada. And, since it is considered personal information, it is protected under Canada's Privacy Act.

(Via Radio Amateurs Canada)

THE GARZETTE

October 1998

Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society
P.O. Box 88
Lilburn, GA 30048



GARS meets the third Thursday of each month at Central Baptist Church on Gwinnett Drive in Lawrenceville. The next meeting will be on OCTOBER 20 at 7:30 P.M.

PAGE 12

THE GARZETTE

OCTOBER 1998

Metro Atlanta Test Sessions

GARS Publishes Metro Area VE/VEC Exam Schedules as a Service and is not responsible for errors or changes. Call and confirm schedules before going. All sessions are walk-in. Take copies of current license and certificate of completed elements with you to all sessions.

1st Sunday - 2:00pm (except Jul&Sep.)

Terry Jones, K4FB 770-967-6364
Johnson High School WCARS VEC
3305 Poplar Springs RD, Gainesville

1st Saturday - 9:00AM

George White, KN4NG 361-6850
Clayton Co. Emergency Mgmt. Bldg.
7496 N. McDonough St. - Jonesboro

2nd Tuesday - 7:00PM

~~Wayne Taylor, WD4GCA 498-7759~~
~~Walton EMC, 3645 Lenora Church Rd,~~
~~Snellville - Temporarily Halted~~

2nd Saturday - 8:30AM - CA VEC

Hal Martin, K14RD - 978-9160
Stone Mountain Methodist Church
5312 West Mountain St., Stone Mtn.

3rd Saturdays - 9:00AM - CA VEC

Larry Huff, WA4CQZ - 955-3171
Marietta First United Methodist
Church 56 Whitlock Ave, Room 305

4th Tuesday - 7:00PM ARRL VEC

Jessie Clower, KB4WFK - 942-6466
United Way Service Center
6279 Fairburn Road, Douglasville,
GA

4th Friday - 7:00PM - W5YI-VEC

Howie Gould, W4NVF 921-8362
St. John Neumann Church
801 Tom Smith Rd, off Five Forks
Trickum Rd, Lilburn
Headphones Provided!

Metro Area Nets And Roundtables

Mon	50.235	8:30PM	Regional 6 Meter SSB Net
Mon	147.21+	9:00PM	Conyers ARES Net t-162.2
Mon	145.45-	8:00PM	ARES Net (Decatur)
Mon	145.47-	8:00PM	North Fulton ARL Net
Mon	145.41-	8:30PM	MATPARC Net
Mon	3.975	8:00PM	Swap Net
Mon	147.075+	9:00PM	Gwinnett ARES Net
Tue	147.075+	8:00PM	GARS Weekly Net
Tue	147.075+	9:00PM	GARS CW Practice
Tue	145.47-	10:30PM	Insomniac Net
Tue	28.420	7:30PM	Ten Meter Traders Net
Wed	145.41	11:30AM	Boy Scout Youth Net
Wed	145.41-	8:00PM	Chapter 49, QCWA Net
Wed	146.67-	8:30PM	LARC Net
Thu	146.88-	8:30PM	Kennehoochee ARC
Thu	147.225+	8:00PM	NE Ga ARC
Thu	147.15	8:00PM	simplex
Thu	145.41-	9:30PM	AMSAT
Thu	427.25ATV	9:00PM	Amateur Television, ATV
	146.655 Voice		
Fri	3.898	8:00PM	GA Traders Net
Fri	145.47-	8:00PM	NFARL Youth Net
Fri	146.45-	Midnight	Turnip Truck Net
Sat	7.275	8:00AM	Swap Net
Sat	3.857	9:00AM	Chapter 49, QCWA Net
Sat	146.45-	Midnight	Turnip Truck Net
Sun	146.82-	8:00PM	ARC Net
Sun	146.76-	7:00PM	Roundtable AMRC t-107.2
Sun	7.275	9:00AM	GA Traders Net
Sun	3.983	5:00PM	GA ARES
Daily	146.76-	Noon	Brown Bag Net t-107.2
Daily	146.88-	11:00PM	Late Nite Owl Net
Daily	146.79-	8:00PM	Sassafrass Mtn.
Daily	3.975	6:00PM	WX & Skywarn

This is a "living list", meaning it is constantly changing. If you know of additions or changes to it please contact the Editor.